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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/728,669  
Filed: December 1, 2000  
Inventor(s):  
Barry Thornton

§ Examiner: Huynh, Kim T.  
§ Group/Art Unit: 2189  
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5602-09400  
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Title: A System Of Co-Located  
Computers In A Framework  
Including Removable  
Function Modules For  
Adding Modular  
Functionality

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Jeffrey C. Hood

JCH 9/9/2004  
Signature Date

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

SEP 17 2004

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

Applicant requests consideration of ☒ the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or ☐ the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- a. ☐ within 3 months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);  
☐ within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an International application;  
☐ before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or  
☐ before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

- b. ☒ after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus: ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or ☒ a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed below.
- c. ☐ after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus: the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed below.

2. It is hereby certified:

- ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. applications, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:

- ☒ reference is made to an English language translation (abstract) submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s) \_\_\_\_\_, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:

5. ☐ Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:

6. ☐ Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.

7. ☐ The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.

8. ☐ Applicant(s) requests that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel PC, Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5602-09400/JCH.

Respectfully submitted,



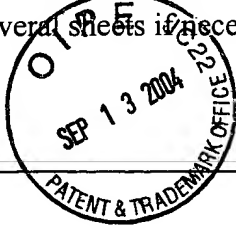
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Date: 9/9/2004

**Form PTO-1449** (modified)

List of Patents and Publications  
For Applicant's Information  
Disclosure Statement  
(Use several sheets if necessary)



ATTY. DOCKET NO: 5602-09400

SERIAL NO: 09/728,669

APPLICANT: Thornton

FILING DATE: December 1, 2000

GROUP: 2189

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	G1	5,311,302	5/10/94				

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION. YES/NO
	G2	KR 2001106740 A	12/7/01	Korea			Yes (abstract)
	G3	WO 95/00917	1/5/95	WIPO			
	G4	WO 99/18533	4/15/99	WIPO			

**OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

	G5	Meece, Mickey, "Plastic to Be Aboard When Gaming Takes Flight," American Banker, January 7, 1994, Vol. 159, No. 5, page 14.
	G6	Hartley, Patrick H., "Cut Costs With Computing," School Planning and Management, May 2001, Vol. 40, No. 5, p. 69 (five pages).
	G7	Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary, Microsoft, 1997, Third Edition, pp. 75-76.
	G8	Syromyatnikov, I. Y., et al., "Performance Analysis of Video Conferencing on Homogenous and Heterogenous Networks," 1996, IEEE, Vol. 2, pp. 548-551.
	G9	Cox, John, "New breed of vendors embrace thin clients," August 31, 1998, Network World, pp. 1-3.

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the patent owner.